

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) A process for producing an ultrafine copper alloy wire, comprising:

melting a high-purity copper having a total unavoidable impurity content of not more than 1 ppm by mass in a carbon crucible installed in a vacuum;

replacing an atmosphere surrounding the melted copper by an argon gas atmosphere and adding 1.0 to 5.0% by mass of silver having a purity of not less than 99.99% by mass to said copper;

casting said copper with silver added thereto in a carbon mold into a wire rod; and drawing said wire rod to a diameter of not more than 0.08 mm.

13. (Currently Amended) A The process for producing an ultrafine copper alloy wire, according to claim 12, further comprising:

~~melting a high-purity copper having a total unavoidable impurity content of not more than 1 ppm by mass in a carbon crucible installed in a vacuum;~~

~~replacing an atmosphere surrounding the melted copper by an argon gas atmosphere~~
and

~~adding, to said copper, 1.0 to 5.0% by mass of silver having a purity of not less than 99.99% by mass and 0.01 to 0.5% by mass of magnesium having a purity of not less than 99.9% by mass.~~

~~casting said copper with silver and magnesium added thereto in a carbon mold into a wire rod; and~~

~~drawing said wire rod to a diameter of not more than 0.08 mm.~~

14. (Currently Amended)) A The process for producing an ultrafine copper alloy wire, according to claim 12, further comprising:

~~melting a high purity copper having a total unavoidable impurity content of not more than 1 ppm by mass in a carbon crucible installed in a vacuum;~~

~~replacing an atmosphere surrounding the melted copper by an argon gas atmosphere~~
and

~~adding, to said copper, 1.0 to 5.0% by mass of silver having a purity of not less than 99.99% by mass and 0.01 to 0.3% by mass of indium having a purity of not less than 99.99% by mass.~~

~~casting said copper with silver and indium added thereto in a carbon mold into a wire rod; and~~

~~drawing said wire rod to a diameter of not more than 0.08 mm.~~